

Docket No.

207187US2

COPY



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Sakae ISHIKAWA, et al.

SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION

GAU:

FILED: Herewith

EXAMINER:

FOR: METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING RACK OPERATION, METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING MULTISTAGE RACK, ARTICLE CONVEYANCE AND STORAGE DEVICE, AND COMPUTER PRODUCT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE/RELATED CASE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFERENCES

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Marvin J. Spivak
Registration No. 24,913

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LIST OF RELATED CASES

<u>Docket Number</u>	<u>Serial or Patent No.</u>	<u>Filing or Issue Date</u>	<u>Status or Patentee</u>
0557-3889-2	5,694,638	12/02/97	MARUYAMA et al.
0557-4650-3	09/290,551	04/12/99	PENDING
194110US3	09/611,661	07/06/00	PENDING
196193US3	09/644,837	08/24/00	PENDING
199746US3	09/725,444	11/30/00	PENDING

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DEC 17 2003



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SHEET 1 OF 1

Form PTO 1449
(Modified)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.

207187US2

SERIAL NO.

NEW APPLICATION

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT

Sakae ISHIKAWA, et al.

FILING DATE

Herewith

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,694,638	12/2/97	Yuichi MARUYAMA, et al.			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	AO	2000-264337	9/26/00	Japan (with partial English translation)		X
	AP	11-348985	12/21/99	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AQ	11-290551	10/26/99	Japan (with English abstract)		X
	AR					
	AS					
	AT					
	AU					
	AV					

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AW	
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Docket No. 207187US2

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Sakae ISHIKAWA et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/848,764

FILED: May 4, 2001

FOR: METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING RACK OPERATION, METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING MULTISTAGE RACK, ARTICLE CONVEYANCE AND STORAGE DEVICE, AND COMPUTER PRODUCT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- No additional fee is required
- Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.9 and §1.27 is claimed.
- Additional documents filed herewith:
 - Copy of Information Disclosure Statement filed May 4, 2001
 - Copy of Form PTO 1449 filed May 4, 2001
 - Copy of List of Related Cases filed may 4, 2001
 - Copy of filing receipt dated May 4, 2001

The Fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS	CLAIMS REMAINING		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID	NO. EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	CALCULATIONS
TOTAL	70	MINUS	71	0	x \$18 =	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	8	MINUS	8	0	x \$86 =	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS				+ \$290 =		\$0.00
			TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS			\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction by 50% for filing by Small Entity						\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Recordation of Assignment				+ \$40 =		\$0.00
					TOTAL	\$0.00

- A check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached.
- Credit card payment form is attached to cover the fees in the amount of \$0.00
- Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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